

Calendar No. 608

104TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION**S. 1844**

To amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act to direct a study of the opportunities for enhanced water based recreation and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 5, 1996

Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself, Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mr. PRYOR) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

SEPTEMBER 16, 1996

Reported by Mr. MURKOWSKI, with an amendment

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act to direct a study of the opportunities for enhanced water based recreation and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Recreation
5 Lakes Study Act of 1996”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

2 The Congress finds that the Federal Government,
3 under the authority of the Reclamation Act and other stat-
4 utes, has developed man-made lakes and reservoirs that
5 have become a powerful magnet for diverse recreational
6 activities and that such activities contribute to the well-
7 being of families and individuals and the economic viability
8 of local communities. The Congress further finds that in
9 order to further the purposes of the Land and Water Con-
10 servation Fund, the President should appoint an advisory
11 commission to review the current and anticipated demand
12 for recreational opportunities at federally-managed man-
13 made lakes and reservoirs through creative partnerships
14 involving Federal, State, and local governments and the
15 private sector and to develop alternatives for enhanced
16 recreational use of such facilities.

17 **SEC. 3. COMMISSION.**

18 The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965
19 (Public Law 88–578, 78 Stat. 897), as amended, is fur-
20 ther amended by adding the following new section 13:

21 “SEC. 13. (a) The President shall appoint an advisory
22 commission to review the opportunities for enhanced op-
23 portunities for water based recreation which shall submit
24 a report to the President and to the Committee on Energy
25 and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee

1 on Resources of the House of Representatives within one
 2 year from the date of enactment of this section.

3 “(b) The members of the Commission shall include—

4 “(1) the Secretary of the Interior, or his des-
 5 ignee;

6 “(2) the Secretary of the Army, or his designee;

7 “(3) the Chairman of the Tennessee Valley Au-
 8 thority, or his designee;

9 “(4) the Secretary of Agriculture, or his des-
 10 ignee;

11 “(5) a person nominated by the National Gov-
 12 ernors’ Association; and

13 ~~“(6) four persons familiar with the recreation~~
 14 ~~and tourism industry, at least one of whom shall be~~
 15 ~~familiar with the economics and financing of recre-~~
 16 ~~ation related infrastructure.~~

17 *“(6) four persons familiar with the interests of*
 18 *the recreation and tourism industry, conservation*
 19 *and recreation use, Indian tribes, and local govern-*
 20 *ments, at least one of whom shall be familiar with the*
 21 *economics and financing of recreation related infra-*
 22 *structure.*

23 “(c) The President shall appoint one member to serve
 24 as Chairman. Any vacancy on the Commission shall be
 25 filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

1 Members of the Commission shall serve without compensa-
2 tion but shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and
3 other necessary expenses incurred by them in the perform-
4 ance of their duties. The Secretary of the Interior shall
5 provide all financial, administrative, and staffing require-
6 ments for the Commission, including office space, furnish-
7 ings, and equipment. The heads of other Federal agencies
8 are authorized, at the request of the Commission, to pro-
9 vide such information or personnel, to the extent per-
10 mitted by law and within the limits of available funds, to
11 the Commission as may be useful to accomplish the pur-
12 poses of this section.

13 “(d) The Commission may hold such hearings, sit
14 and act at such times and places, take such testimony,
15 and receive such evidence as it deems advisable: *Provided*,
16 That, to the maximum extent possible, the Commission
17 shall use existing data and research. The Commission is
18 authorized to use the United States mail in the same man-
19 ner and upon the same conditions as other departments
20 and agencies of the United States.

21 “(e) The report shall review the extent of water relat-
22 ed recreation at Federal man-made lakes and reservoirs
23 and shall develop alternatives to enhance the opportunities
24 for such use by the public. In developing the report, the
25 Commission shall—

1 “(1) review the extent to which recreation com-
2 ponents identified in specific authorizations associ-
3 ated with individual Federal man-made lakes and
4 reservoirs have been accomplished;

5 “(2) evaluate the feasibility of enhancing recre-
6 ation opportunities at federally-managed lakes and
7 reservoirs under existing statutes;

8 “(3) consider legislative changes that would en-
9 hance recreation opportunities consistent with and
10 subject to the achievement of the authorized pur-
11 poses of Federal water projects; and

12 “(4) make recommendations on alternatives for
13 enhanced recreation opportunities including, but not
14 limited to, the establishment of a National Recre-
15 ation Lake System under which specific lakes would
16 receive national designation and which would be
17 managed through innovative partnership-based
18 agreements between Federal agencies, State and
19 local units of government, and the private sector.
20 Any such alternatives shall be consistent with and
21 subject to the authorized purposes for any man-
22 made lakes and reservoirs and shall emphasize pri-
23 vate sector initiatives in concert with State and local
24 units of government.”.

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